

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Home of the HUBBERS



**Smethport Area
School District**
Administration Office
414 South Mechanic St.
Smethport PA 16749
(814)887-5543 ~ phone
(814)887-5544 ~ fax

David E. London
Superintendent

Susan M. Jordan
Business Manager

Brice N. Benson
High School Principal

Kristin Zona
Elementary Principal

Julia E. Anderson
Director of
Special Education

Kevin C. Kolivoski
Technology Coordinator

January 14, 2019

Dear Student, Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

We have completed our first semester for the 2018/2019 school year. Here are a few items of special interest that I wanted to share with you as we enter our second semester.

Our new Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mr. Benson, will officially begin work on February 1, 2019. On several occasions over the last month, Mr. Benson has been here at our school meeting our staff and students, setting up his office and preparing to assume leadership of our high school. We are looking forward to his leadership and direction for our students and staff.

On January 14, 2019, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania launched a school safety program known as "Safe2Say Something". This program, operated by the State Attorney General's office, is a program that instructs students, teachers and administrators on how to recognize warning signs and signals associated with school safety concerns. The program instructs everyone on proper ways to report these safety concerns. The Safe2Say Something program also features an anonymous tip line that students can use in an emergency situation if face to face reporting regarding school safety is not available.

On January 29, 2019, we will be conducting student training at SAJSHS regarding the Safe2Say Something program. The program is designed for middle school and high school aged students. More information is available on the back of this letter and the Safe2Say Something parent brochure can be found on our school web-site: www.smethportschools.com

In November and December of 2018 we completed water sample testing for the presence of lead levels in our drinking water. This water testing is recommended for all schools as per new requirements from Act 39 of 2018. In our first round of sampling, Microbac Lab tested 28 water samples from sinks, fountains and water outlets in our buildings and reported the results. 26 of our samples tested fine with lead levels below 0.015 mg/L. Two (2) of our samples tested high. One high sample was from a drain/test faucet in the boiler room. This water faucet is not accessible to students/staff and is not a source of drinking water. The other high sample was from a fountain connected to a sink in a Pre-K classroom. Once discovered the water was shut off to this fountain and this fountain has been disconnected. Both of these sample sites are seldom used water outlets. The other two water fountains in the Pre-K room tested acceptable. It is likely that the water fixtures are to blame as all other areas in our school tested acceptable. The test results are available for review in the Superintendent's Office for anyone who would like to review the results. The district will be conducting further testing of our water outlets. More information regarding lead testing in PA Schools can be found at the following web-site:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/resources/Pages/Lead-in-Drinking-Water.aspx>

If you have any questions regarding the Safe2Say Program or water testing for lead levels, please contact my office. Thank you.

David London, Superintendent

website address:
www.smethportschools.com